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REMARKS

Claims 1, 11, 13 and 14 have been amended, and claims 10 and 19 have been cancelled. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in lines 20-22 on page 9 of Applicants' specification. Claims 1-9, 11-18, 20 and 21 are presently pending in the application.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-21 on prior art. Regarding these rejections, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Houghton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,087,820). Applicants respectfully disagrees with this rejection.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (Emphasis added; *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). Thus, for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) to be proper, every limitation recited in each rejected claim, which is rejected as being anticipated by a prior-art reference, must be clearly disclosed in that single prior-art reference. In the instant case, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited Houghton et al. reference does not disclose each and every element that is recited in the rejected claims, as amended, and, therefore, the cited Houghton et al. reference does not anticipate any of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Applying the above standard, Houghton et al. does not disclose a reference voltage generator, comprising a combination of elements including, among other things, "a first current source operative to generate a first current, the first current source having a first temperature coefficient; an output current mirror operatively coupled . . . to generate a second current in response to the first current; an output device operative to provide a reference voltage in response to the second current; and a shunt device, having a second temperature coefficient the same as the first temperature coefficient, operatively coupled in parallel with the output device," as recited in independent, amended claim 1.

Nor does Houghton et al. disclose a method for generating a reference voltage as set forth in independent, amended claim 11, including, among other things, "generating a first current with a current source having a first temperature coefficient; mirroring the first current and

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generating a second current . . . providing a reference voltage . . . and shunting a current with a shunt device, which has a second temperature coefficient the same as the first temperature coefficient and which is coupled in parallel with the second current."


Furthermore, independent, amended claim 20 is directed to a reference voltage generator, including, among other things, "a first resistive element; a PMOS transistor coupled to apply a gate-source voltage difference on the first resistive element to generate a first current; a current mirror for mirroring the first current to generate a second current; a second resistive element coupled to be applied with the second current to thereby generate a reference voltage; and an NMOS transistor connected to the second resistive element in parallel for compensating a variation of the gate-source voltage difference," which is not disclosed by Houghton et al.

Accordingly, since Houghton et al. does not disclose all of the limitations of any one of the presently pending independent claims, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn. In addition, Applicants submit that none of the presently pending claims are obvious over Houghton et al. In particular, Applicants submit the Houghton et al., taken separately or together with any other prior-art reference of record, does not provide a required suggestion or motivation to render any of the present claims obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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